

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) [[A]] In a cosmetic preparation containing-comprising a pigment and a carrier material or base formulation,
the improvement wherein the pigment comprises
a metal-effect pigment consisting of a metallic substrate and having a single layer ~~coating consisting of a single layer~~ encapsulating the substrate, produced in [[the]] a sol-gel process,

said single layer providing a barrier effect with respect to sweat and saliva and preventing direct contact between the human body and the metallic substrate,

said metal-effect pigment being water-wettable;

wherein the single layer encapsulating the substrate consists essentially of SiO₂; and

wherein silica particles generating the coating of the metal-effect pigment have an average diameter of < 100 nm and the preparation feels accordingly smooth in its application.

12. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11, ~~wherein it is available~~ in the form of a creme, a lotion, an eye shadow, a lipstick, a mascara, a gel, a make-up formulation, or a self-tanning creme or lotion.

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11, wherein it imparts a uniform optical impression of the skin without changing the color of the skin.

15. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11, wherein it evens out or covers up skin impurities.

16. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claims 11, wherein it contains a weight percentage of 0.2% to 40% of said metal-effect pigment.

17. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 11, wherein it is a nail polish.

18. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation according to claim 17, wherein it is based on nitrocellulose.

19. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic preparation as in any of the preceding claims, wherein it additionally contains benzotriazoles.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The cosmetic preparation of claim 16 wherein said weight percentage of metal-effect pigment is 0.2 to 10%.

22. (Previously Presented) The cosmetic preparation of claim 16 wherein said weight percentage of metal-effect pigment is 0.2 to 5%.